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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Application of the Republic of Croatia for admission to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of the Republic of Croatia for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 11 February 1992 from the President of the Republic of Croatia to the Secretary-General.

ANNEX

Letter dated 11 February 1992 from the President of the Republic of Croatia to the Secretary-General

In accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations and in compliance with the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council (rules 58-60) and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (rules 134-138) relating to admission of new members to the United Nations I have the honour, on behalf of the Republic of Croatia and in my capacity as President, to apply for membership of the United Nations.

According to the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and having in mind that the establishment of a sovereign and independent State is one of the modes of implementing the right of self-determination the Republic of Croatia has constituted itself as an independent State. The proclamation of independence by the Parliament of the Republic of Croatia on 25 June 1991, is based on the decision of the entire population of the Republic of Croatia as expressed in a referendum held on 19 May 1991. Due to the leading role and utmost importance of the United Nations in the contemporary world the admission to the United Nations would certainly represent a supremely important achievement for the new State of Croatia.

The Declaration of the European Community on the "Guidelines on the Recognition of New States in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union" has set very detailed and strict criteria for the formal recognition of new States in these regions. This common European position requires, inter alia: respect for the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the commitments subscribed to in the Final Act of Helsinki and in the Charter of Paris, especially with regard to the rule of law, democracy and human rights; guarantees for the rights of ethnic and national groups and minorities in accordance with the commitments subscribed to in the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe; respect for the inviolability of all frontiers which can only be changed by peaceful means and by common agreement; commitment to settle by agreement, including where appropriate by recourse to arbitration, all questions concerning State succession and regional disputes. These criteria encompass the five requisite conditions for admission to the United Nations as determined by the International Court of Justice in its Advisory Opinion on Conditions of Admission of a State to Membership in the United Nations. The judgement that these requirements have been fulfilled by the Republic of Croatia has already been confirmed by more than 40 States Members of the United Nations from all the geographic regions who have formally recognized the Republic of Croatia. We bear in mind that all the conditions for admission to the United Nations are subject to the judgement of the General Assembly of the United Nations but we would also like to underline that the spirit as well as the terms of the Charter preclude the idea that considerations extraneous to the principles and obligations set in the Charter can prevent the admission of a State which complies with them.

Reaffirming our commitment to continue to seek an overall solution of the crisis through the Conference on Yugoslavia under the auspices of the European Community and when appropriate its Arbitration Committee, it should also be stressed that the Republic of Croatia has undertaken all efforts to support the role that the United Nations will play in achieving a peaceful solution. In this sense it has requested the Security Council to establish a peace-keeping operation and has given its consent to the plan for the deployment of a United Nations peace-keeping operation referred to in United Nations Security Council resolutions 724 (1991) and 727 (1992). In accordance with such efforts the Republic of Croatia is undertaking all necessary measures to observe the cease-fire agreed at Geneva on 23 November 1991 and further elaborated by the Implementing Accord at Sarajevo on 2 January 1992, signed under the auspices of Your Excellency's Personal Envoy. We believe that the admission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations would facilitate the cooperation of the authorities of our Republic with United Nations peace-keeping forces and contribute to the success of the peace plan in the same way as the accelerated acceptance of the Republics of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is contributing to political solution, peaceful dissociation and armament control.

As also stated in a separate formal declaration attached to this application the Republic of Croatia is willing to accept and carry out the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and by this letter express its desire to become a Member of the United Nations.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CROATIA

(Signed) Dr. Franjo TUDJMAN

APPENDIX

Declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations

In connection with the application by the Republic of Croatia for membership of the United Nations I have the honour, in my capacity as President of the Republic, as pursuant to Articles 94 and 99 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, to declare that the Republic of Croatia accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and solemnly undertakes to fulfil them.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CROATIA

(Signed) Dr. Franjo TUDJMAN